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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/991,932	11/26/2001	Akiko Miyagawa	2565-0238P	9870

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EXAMINER

NOBAHAR, ABDULHAKIM

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2132

DATE MAILED: 08/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/991,932	Applicant(s) MIYAGAWA ET AL.	
Examiner Abdulkhkim Nobahar	Art Unit 2132	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**.
- 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-5 and 7-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 6 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 11/12/02, 8/3/04.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 2 and 10 are objected to because of the following informalities in lines 7 and 6, respectively: The word "commination" which it apparently is a misspelled representation of the word communication. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 4, this claim in line 3 recites "reception section receives an encapsulated illegal access data by the illegal access data detection device from the illegal access data detection device" which is unclear statement. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application

Art Unit: 2132

by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-3 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rothermel et al (6,678,827 B1; hereinafter Rothermel).

Claim 1

Rothermel discloses:

An illegal access data handling apparatus, being placed outside a given internal communication network (see col. 1, lines 22-36, where unauthorized external access corresponds to the recited illegal access data; col. 6, lines 7-20, where the Network Security Device Management and the supervisor devices are functionally equivalent to the recited illegal access data handling apparatus; col. 14, lines 50-59), for receiving illegal access data transmitted from a data communication device placed outside the internal communication network for a purpose of illegally accessing the internal communication network (see col. 6, lines 7-20; col. 9, lines 14-27, where a NSD transmits security information about an of event of interest corresponding to the recited

Art Unit: 2132

illegal access data to a supervisor device), and for taking countermeasures against the illegal access data received (see col. 15, lines 30-57).

Claim 2

Rothermel discloses:

The illegal access data handling apparatus of claim 1, wherein the illegal access data handling apparatus is connected to an illegal access data detection device for relaying a data communication between a data communication device placed within the internal communication network and a data communication device placed outside the internal communication network (see col. 4, lines 30-48; col. 6, lines 7-20, where the Network Security Device Management and the supervisor devices are functionally equivalent to the recited illegal access data handling apparatus and the Network Security Device that is placed between external devices and the internal devices corresponds to the recited illegal access data detection device), and for detecting the illegal access data, and wherein the illegal access data handling apparatus receives the illegal access data from the illegal access data detection device (see col. 15, lines 3-15; col. 16, lines 7-55, where the NSD detects unauthorized packets and transmits information related to this event to a supervisor device).

Claim 3

Rothermel discloses:

The illegal access data handling apparatus of claim 2, comprising:

Art Unit: 2132

a data reception section for receiving the illegal access data from the illegal access data detection device (see col. 16, lines 15-20);

a data analysis section for analyzing the illegal access data received by the data reception section (see col. 3, lines 45-57; col. 4, lines 43-48);

a response data generation section for generating response data to the illegal access data based upon an analysis result from the data analysis section (see col. 4, line 49-col. 5, line 13, where the templates corresponds to the recited response data);
and

a data transmission section for transmitting the response data generated by the response data generation section to the illegal access data detection device (see col. 4, lines 65-col. 5, line 3).

Claim 9

Rothermel discloses:

A method for handling illegal access data outside a given internal communication network, the method comprising (see Fig. 1):

receiving illegal access data transmitted from a data communication device placed outside the internal communication network for a purpose of illegally accessing the internal communication network (see col. 6, lines 7-20; col. 9, lines 14-27, where a NSD transmits security information about an of event of interest corresponding to the recited illegal access data to a supervisor device); and

Art Unit: 2132

taking countermeasures against the illegal access data received (see col. 15, lines 30-57).

Claim 10

Rothermel discloses:

The method of claim 9, comprising:

communicating with an illegal access data detection device for relaying a data communication between a data communication device placed within the internal communication network and a data communication device placed outside the internal communication network, and for detecting the illegal access data (see col. 4, lines 30-48; col. 6, lines 7-20, where the Network Security Device Management and the supervisor devices are functionally equivalent to the recited illegal access data handling apparatus and the Network Security Device that is placed between external devices and the internal devices corresponds to the recited illegal access data detection device); and receiving the illegal access data from the illegal access data detection device (see col. 15, lines 3-15; col. 16, lines 7-55, where the NSD detects unauthorized packets and transmits information related to this event to a supervisor device).

Claim 11

Rothermel discloses:

The method of claim 10, comprising:

Art Unit: 2132

receiving the illegal access data from the illegal access data detection device
(see col. 16, lines 15-20);

analyzing the illegal access data received by the receiving (see col. 3, lines 45-
57; col. 4, lines 43-48);

generating response data to the illegal access data based upon an analysis
result from the analyzing (see col. 4, line 49-col. 5, line 13, where the templates
corresponds to the recited response data); and

transmitting the response data generated by the generating to the illegal access
data detection device (see col. 4, lines 65-col. 5, line 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all
obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothermel et al (6,678,827 B1; hereinafter Rothermel) in view of Reshef et al (6,321,337 B1; hereinafter Reshef).

Claim 4

Rothermel discloses:

Art Unit: 2132

The illegal access data handling apparatus of claim 3, wherein the data reception section receives an illegal access data from the illegal access data detection device (see col. 5, lines 55-61; col. 16, lines 15-20), and wherein the data transmission section transmits the response data to the illegal access data detection device (see col. 5, lines 55-61; col. 16, lines 15-20; col. 17, lines 23-43)

Rothermel does not expressly disclose that the illegal access data handling apparatus includes a capsulation section for decapsulating the encapsulated illegal access data received by the data reception section to extract the illegal access data, and encapsulates the response data.

Reshef, however, discloses a system for protecting an internal network from attacks originated from entities located in an external network (see col. 3, lines 45-67). Reshef further discloses a capsulation mechanism deployed in security components of a gateway to encapsulate and decapsulate the data transmitted between them.

Therefore, it would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement a capsulation mechanism as taught in Reshef in the system of Rothermel, because it would reinforce the communication between a NSD (a detecting device) and a supervisor device (a security managing device) against exploitation and against bugs affecting the operation (see Reshef, col. 2, lines 15-30).

Claim 7

Rothermel discloses:

Art Unit: 2132

The illegal access data handling apparatus of claim 4, wherein the data reception section receives the illegal access data having authentication information attached to be used for data authentication from the illegal access data detection device, and wherein the capsulation section performs the data authentication for the illegal access data by using the authentication information (see col. 6, lines 1-6; col. 11, lines 34-45).

Claim 8

Rothermel discloses:

The illegal access data handling apparatus of claim 7, wherein the capsulation section attaches the authentication information to be used for the data authentication for the response data to the response data, and wherein the data transmission section transmits the response data having the authentication information attached by the capsulation section to the illegal access data detection device (see col. 5, line 52-col. 6, line 6; col. 11, lines 34-45, where the communication between the NSDs and supervisor devices are encrypted and authenticated for the purpose of security and thus, the information transmitted between these devices must have required data to perform authentication process).

Claims 5 are 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rothermel et al (6,678,827 B1; hereinafter Rothermel) in view of Moran (6,826,697 B1; hereinafter Moran).

Art Unit: 2132

Regarding claims 5 and 12, Rothermel does not disclose a decoy scheme to respond to an illegal access attempt by an unauthorized user (e.g. a hacker) with a response to have similar content as a true response. Moran teaches the use of a deception server containing false data to be used by suspected users (col. 2, lines 1-5). Therefore, it would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to implement a decoy computer system as taught in Moran in the system of Rothermel, in order to defeat the attackers attempting to access a computer system (see Moran, col. 1, lines 57-62).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 6 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US Patent No. 5,414,833 to Hershey et al.

US Patent No. 2003/0051026 A1 to Carter et al.

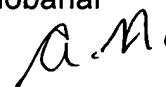
Art Unit: 2132

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Abdulhakim Nobahar whose telephone number is 571-272-3808. The examiner can normally be reached on M-T 8-6.

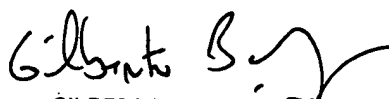
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gilberto Barron can be reached on 571-272-3799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abdulhakim Nobahar
Examiner
Art Unit 2132



August 16, 2005



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